THE MINISTER OF STATE THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) The level of pollution of the river Yamuna at various stretches from Palla to Wazirabad has been classified as Class-C (fit for drinking after treatment) and downstream Wazirabad to Okhla is classified as Class-E (fit for industrial use). The classifications are based on pollution levels which are as follows:—

No.	Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand mg/l	Dissolved Oxygen mg/l	Coliform MPN/100 ml.
1. Palla to Wazirabad	8.18	3.7	1077
2. Wazirabad to Okhla Barrage	0.68	22.6	350000

(b) Yes, sir.

(c) & (d) As reported by the Central Pollution Control Board, 184 cases with reference to Yamuna river have been filed against polluting industries under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 for discharging effluent above prescribed standards. 106 cases have been decided out of which 104 have been against the industries.

Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980

2729. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how many proposals of State Governments are pending with the Ministry for diversion of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(b) whether Government are aware that small irrigation projects or water supply schemes to be undertaken in or through forest areas, the States Government has to approach the Regional Office at Bhopal or to the Government of India and hence delay occurs; and

(c) if so, whether the Central Government would amend the Act and entrust the powers to State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) 226 proposals for diversion of forest land were pending with Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as on 30.11.1993.

(b) Revised consolidated guidelines have been issued on 25.10.92 in order to streamline and decentralise the examination of proposals received under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Revised guidelines, *inter alia*, include delegation of powers to Regional Chief Conservators of Forests to finally decide proposals involving diversion of forest land upto 5 ha. excluding proposals in respect of regularisation of encroachments and mining and examination of all other proposals involving diversion of forest land upto 20 ha. in consultation with the State Advisory Group comprising of representatives of the concerned State Government. The delay in clearance of the projects under the Act is mainly because of non furnishing/late submission of information required for examination of proposal, by the State Governments.

(c) At present no proposal is under consideration of this Ministry to amend the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for delegating power to the State Government under the Act.